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Fire claimed a historic farmhouse on St. Peter's Road in Algonquin Highlands on the morning of March 4. Firefighters got the call to the blaze, which started as a chimney fire, around 4 a.m. Submitted

MH roads worker assaulted

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

A Minden Hills roads worker was assaulted while doing his job late last month. According to a press release from the OPP, around 7 a.m. on Feb. 21 a man approached a township employee in a sander truck parked on Coxfarm

see POLICE page 8

Fire destroys historic farmhouse on Maple Lake

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

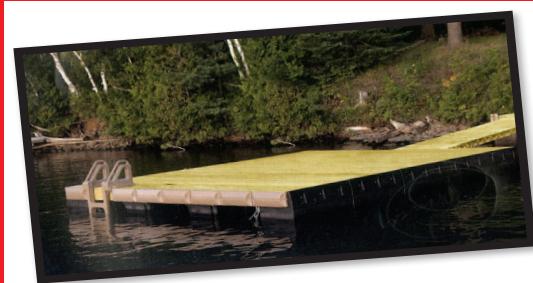
Flames claimed a historic farmhouse overlooking Maple Lake on the morning of March 4.

Algonquin Highlands firefighters received the call for

the blaze on St. Peter's Road just before 4 a.m. and flames were engulfing the century-old home that had been part of the Dawson family farmstead upon their arrival.

Algonquin Highlands fire chief Keith Thomas said the fire was not suspicious and believes it started in the home's chimney.

see SMOKE page 8



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Snowmobiler dies following collision

On Friday, Feb. 28 at 10:52 p.m., OPP officers, Haliburton County EMS and Dysart et al Fire Department responded to a snowmobile collision on Boice Bradley Drive, in the Municipality of Dysart et al. The collision occurred approximately half a kilometre north of Haliburton Lake Road when the male driver who was operating his 2002 Polaris, lost control and struck a tree. The man suffered life-threatening injuries and was transported by land ambulance to Haliburton Hospital where he later succumbed to his injuries. The man has been identified as 59-year-old Donald Parker from Pickering. The collision is under investigation by OPP technical collision investigators. It appears the man was unfamiliar with the area and speed may have been a factor in the collision.

Break and enter at Minden hydro yard

The OPP is investigating a break and enter and theft at the Hydro One yard on Highway 35 in Minden. Sometime between the evening of Feb. 21 and the early morning hours of Feb. 22, thieves gained access to the yard by cutting through the chain link fence. Numerous items were stolen from the hydro trucks and trailers including six gas-powered saws and 12 to 15 coils of copper wire wrapped in orange insulation. The total value of the items stolen is estimated to be at \$15,000. Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Semach at 705-286-1431 or the Kawartha-Haliburton Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.khcs.ca.

Snowmobiler injured

The OPP responded to a motor vehicle collision on Saturday, Feb. 22, at approximately 12:45 p.m. The OPP was met by Haliburton County EMS and Minden Hills Fire Department at an address on Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. A 58-year-old woman from Port Dover was operating her 2011 Ski-doo when she struck a tree. She was transported to Minden Hospital with minor injuries. No charges are anticipated in the investigation.

Snowmobile stolen

On March 1, the OPP was contacted regarding the theft of a snowmobile from a cottage on Clear Lake in the Township of Algonquin Highlands. Sometime during Feb. 28 to March 1, thieves stole a black 2011 Arctic Cat Crossfire 800cc valued at approximately \$10,000. The machine was parked at the lake near the cottage. The vehicle identification number (VIN) is 4UF11SNW1BT119308 and the Ontario licence is 4AC207. So far this winter season this is the third snowmobile in the Haliburton County area and the 37th that has been stolen within OPP Central Region area. Police are reminding snowmobile owners to make every effort to store them safely by disabling, securing and keeping them out of sight. Anyone with information in any of the snowmobile thefts is asked to contact OPP at 705-286-1431 or the Kawartha-Haliburton Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), on-line at www.khcs.ca.



Chad Ingram Staff

The Irondale Country Store on County Road 503 was damaged by fire the morning of March 2. Started by a space heater, the blaze damaged the upper floor and the building sustained significant smoke and water damage. A fire four years ago destroyed the building's upper floor, where two apartments are located.

Irondale Country Store burns again

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

For the second time in four years, the Irondale Country Store has been hit by fire.

Minden Hills firefighters got the call just before 7 a.m. on Sunday, March 2, that the store on County Road 503 was in flames.

"There was a lot of heavy smoke and water damage," said fire chief Doug Schell, who said it's believed the fire was started by a space heater and is not considered suspicious.

Residents of the apartments in the building were not injured.

Four years ago, fire destroyed the upper floor of the building.



A closer view of the smoke and fire damage on the Irondale Country Store.

Deep Bay Road fire deemed suspicious

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Police are investigating a February house fire in Minden Hills as suspicious.

The Minden Hills fire department received the call for the blaze at 2262 Deep

Bay Road around 9 p.m. on Feb. 18 and were on site for approximately four hours, with mutual aid assistance coming from the Dysart et al department.

"The inside was partially gutted, the roof was totalled," Minden Hills fire chief Doug Schell told the *Times*.

The walls remain standing.

The OPP announced last week they are investigating the fire as suspicious.

Anyone with any information is asked to call the Haliburton Highlands detachment at 705-286-1431 or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477 if callers wish to remain anonymous.



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Chad Ingram Staff

Haliburton Highlands OPP headquarters in Minden. The proposed billing model for the Ontario Provincial Police isn't popular with local politicians, who took their concerns to the Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference.

OPP billing discontent widespread at conference

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

The new OPP billing model proposed to come into effect in 2015 was on the minds and lips of politicians at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association/Ontario Good Roads Association conference last week.

The conference was held at Toronto's Royal York hotel Feb. 23 to 26.

Haliburton County's reeves had requested a meeting with Madeleine Meilleur, the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, to express their opposition to the formula.

"We were the first delegation," Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid told councillors and members of the public following a council meeting Feb. 27. "[Meilleur] didn't seem very flexible at that point. Forty-eight delegations later, she probably got the message."

Reid said OPP costs were the dominant issue of the conference.

Haliburton County is among the municipalities that would be most adversely affected by the formula, with the annual combined policing costs of its four townships jumping from \$3.3 million to \$8.5 million.

Only the District of Muskoka would be more severely affected, with annual costs there taking a leap from \$9.7 million to \$17 million.

One-hundred-ninety of the Ontario townships served by the OPP would see their costs jump under the framework, the rational

for which is to equalize OPP payments among municipalities at \$369 per household.

Reid said Meilleur seemed unwilling to explore changing the formula or accept a request to postpone its initiation.

The county's politicians went armed with fact sheets explaining how the changes would negatively impact their constituencies – tax increases between 20 and 36 per cent, depending on the township – and handed them out to provincial reps.

Reid seemed hopeful that Opposition leader Tim Hudak had brought up doing away with the formula during a speech Tuesday.

"I think that's going to add a political dimension to this," the reeve said.

Legislation allows for municipalities to create their own police forces or bind with adjacent municipalities to create joint forces.

"To be honest, I didn't meet anyone at the conference who felt that was a viable alternative," Reid said, explaining there had been conversations with neighbouring municipalities.

However, she noted there were no numbers to back up these instincts.

"If the alternative isn't viable, we need to show it isn't viable," said Reid, who's suggested investigating alternatives at the county table.

While mitigation funding has been proposed by some townships, it's not an idea Haliburton County has embraced, with Reid calling it a Band-Aid solution and

saying that any funding to help ease the blow would last a few years at most.

"We think the underlying rational behind this is wrong," she said.

County treasurer Laura Janke has called the formula "flawed" and the fact sheet produced by the county points out that no other municipal costs, calculations, grants or funding opportunities are provided on a per-household basis.

Also, with the auditor general's figure that an OPP officer costs \$159,000 on average – between salary, benefits, etc. – Haliburton County would be paying for 54 officers at the proposed rate, but only has 29 at the detachment.

Also on the fact sheet is that the 65 per cent of county residences that are seasonal do not generate the same volume of service calls as year-round residences and that a lack of industrial and commercial tax base places burden on households.

Reid is the county's representative on an OPP billing steering committee organized through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, which will be meeting again this week.

That body is compiled of reps of both townships that would see their costs rise and townships that would see their costs fall.

"The whole thing is truly up in the air right now," Reid said.

The steering committee is expected to produce a report in April.

Schmale seeks Conservative candidacy

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Jamie Schmale wants his boss's job.

Schmale, chief of staff for MP Barry Devolin, will toss his hat in the proverbial ring for the Conservative candidacy for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock in the 2015 federal election.

Devolin announced late last year he won't be running again.

This isn't the first time Schmale has set his sights on the House of Commons.

"I ran for the nomination back in 2003," he says. "This job has been something I've wanted to do for a long time."

Devolin won the nomination that year.

"We knew each other, we didn't know each other well," Schmale says. "We respected one another."

Devolin respected Schmale enough to make him his campaign manager and, after winning the 2004 election, his right-hand employee.

Schmale had been working as news director at Lindsay radio station Y92, formerly CKLY. He spent seven years with the station, working his way from reporter to the head of the newsroom.

Having worked for Devolin for nearly a decade seems bound to come in handy.

"I think that's one of my biggest advantages," Schmale says. "I know the players in the riding. I know the issues. The learning

curve will be very small."

Why the Conservative party? "It follows my beliefs," Schmale says, adding these include keeping taxes low and being tough on crime, as well as the importance of personal freedoms and a free market economy.

His platform will focus on the economy and jobs, including capitalizing on the Trent-Severn Waterway, which Schmale believes could be a bigger attraction and economic driver in the area.

As for the contentious issue of the Senate, the scandal around which has hit both the Conservative government and the Liberal party, Schmale supports the Supreme Court review on what might be done with the upper chamber without changing the constitution.

"I think that's a prudent step," he says. "I think I'm just as upset as any other Canadian. Clearly, it wasn't perfect to begin with. I'm not against getting rid of the Senate."

A Lindsay resident, Schmale was raised in Bobcaygeon and is 37, soon to be 38.

"My youth is to my advantage," Schmale says. "I have the drive, I have the dedication. I'd like to put my experience over the past 10 years to work for the people of this riding."

More information on Schmale can be found at jamieschmale.ca.

The Conservative riding association will choose its candidate later this year.



Submitted photo

MP Barry Devolin's chief of staff Jamie Schmale announced he will run to become the Conservative candidate for the next federal election.



Brady Baldry pulls some fellow students in a sled in a race as part of a day of winter activities at ASES on Feb. 28.



Jacob Hudson makes a break for it during an icy game of broomball.



Embracing the cold

Above, Carley Duncan leads her team to victory in the tug-of-war, part of a day of winter activities at Archie Stouffer Elementary School on Feb. 28.

Right, Crystal Petry makes her way downhill during an Olympic-themed spirit day.



Photos by Chad Ingram

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Student winners recognized by Legion

The Archie Stouffer Elementary School student winners of the Royal Canadian Legion Essay, Poetry and Poster Remembrance Contest, front row, left, primary colour poster participants, Annarose Kilpatrick, first, and Johnathan Watson, second, middle row, left, junior colour poster participants, Jordanna Mavor, first, and Jayme Coltrman, second, third row, left, intermediate participants, Shawn Walker, third for colour poster, Samantha Steffensen, third for black and white, Logan Roylance, second for black and white poster, Dylan Garbutt, second in colour poster, Liam McAlister, who won first place for essay, and Denver Allore, who won first place for black and white poster, colour poster and best poem.

They accepted prize money totalling \$275 from, last row, left, branch 636 Minden Legion president, Keith Wellborn, poppy chairperson, Georgina Parkes, public relations officer, Jan Briggs-McGowan and youth education chairperson, Kevin Smith. Absent was second place colour poster winner Grace Lippolis for the junior category.

Darren Lum Staff



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MPP welcomes snowplow contract review

News that the auditor general would be reviewing winter road maintenance programs in Ontario has Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott pleased.

In a press release, the MPP says the PC caucus pushed for the review, which passed in the standing committee on public accounts.

The report will focus on the number of vehicles used, circuit times, the proper and efficient use of chemical melters and salt, hours of operation and response times, the press release says.

"I drive these roads in rural Ontario on a regular basis, like many of my fellow MPPs, and have experienced first-hand the poor road conditions," said Scott.

She said her constituency office has heard many complaints about the condition of the roadways.

"I have heard stories of horrible and dangerous road conditions from residents across my riding," said Scott. "This winter has been

particularly tough on our roads and we need to make sure these companies are doing the jobs they are hired to do. This is not just about poor service; it is about people's safety on our roads."

The subject of poor road conditions, particularly on provincial highways has been a regular complaint for the last two years.

Locally, Carillion provides plowing services for Highway 35 and 118.

While many have observed the roads aren't done as often as they were before Carillion's contract began, the Ministry of Transportation has argued the company plows to the standards set out by the province.

Several area municipalities including Algonquin Highlands, Highlands East, Dysart and Huntsville have sent letters to the premier of Ontario complaining about the situation.

The auditor general report is due back by the end of 2014, hopefully in time to take action for next winter, the release says.



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our editorial

Democratizing deputies

THE TOWNSHIPS of Algonquin Highlands and Highlands East should change their electoral processes to match those of Minden Hills and Dysart et al, so that deputy-reeves are chosen by general election.

While reeves in all four of the county's townships are elected directly by constituents, in Algonquin Highlands and Highlands East, councillors vote to determine which one of them will sit as deputy-reeve for the term.

This is not an insignificant decision, especially since the upper-tier Haliburton County council is comprised of the reeve and deputy-reeve of each of the lower-tier townships.

Currently two out of eight members of county council – a full 25 per cent – are not chosen by ballot.

With the filing period already open for October's municipal elections, it is too late to make the change for the upcoming term.

However, one of the first items of business for the new councils in Algonquin Highlands and Highlands East should be to change their election formats so that residents choose deputy-reeves.

It's simply more democratic.



Chad Ingram
Reporter

This was not the case on a Friday morning late last month when a man, apparently enraged at the condition of the roads, assaulted a Minden Hills roads worker who was out doing his job.

According to a police press release, the man, yelling and swearing, hopped up on the running board of a sander truck, punching the township employee.

Along with logger, metal worker and of course, lion tamer, it seems that sand truck driver should be placed among the world's more dangerous occupations.

Apparently Minden Hills should be giving its roads crew danger pay.

Obviously this was a case of displacement. Anger from another aspect of the attacker's life was taken out on the unsuspecting driver.

It seems anger management tactics were nil and so, for anyone contemplating striking a municipal roads worker, I've compiled a list of things to do instead:

10. Count backwards from 10.
9. Hold your breath until you pass out.
8. Call your shrink.
7. File your papers to run in the municipal election.
6. Join a fight club. But don't talk about fight club.
5. Be the Buddha.
4. Go home and work on your Alessandro Lisi impersonation act.
3. Search for Sasquatch.
2. Look at pictures of adorable kittens.
1. Punch yourself in the face.

Road rage

At one time or another, many of us have likely wanted to just haul off and punch someone in the face.

However, for most of us, impulse control/adherence to the law kicks in and civility prevails.

KWARKY



"THIS ISN'T THE GYM: YOU DON'T HAVE TO WIPE DOWN THE EQUIPMENT."

letters to the editor

Clearing up misconceptions

To the Editor,

I am a volunteer with the Minden Food Bank and would like to clarify some things that have recently been printed in the paper about Fuel for Warmth.

Fuel for Warmth is not an initiative of the Minden Food Bank.

Fuel for Warmth has been in existence for five years and all donations are held by the Minden Bible Church until needed and all accounting is done by the church.

Joanne Barnes happens to run the program as a member of the church and also is the manager of the Minden Food Bank.

Anyone who has a real need for fuel contacts the program and is entitled to help ONCE a season and is helped out with a maximum of \$200 for oil, wood, propane, or whatever fuel they need.

The program tries to restrict their fuel donations to Haliburton County but sometimes it is hard to turn people down who are really cold.

I just thought this could clear up any misconceptions that people might have about the program.

Marilynne Lesperance
Minden

Ramps creative, cost-saving

To the Editor,

Re: *Minden Times* Feb. 18, "MH wants consultation on ramp project."

As a health promoter, working in public health for the HKPR District Health Unit, my role is to identify ways to keep people healthy and active as well as to prevent illness and injury. This is done by working with agencies and with individuals in the community to build capacity to be able to live longer, healthier lives, so we are able to remain in our own homes and in our own communities.

In Haliburton County, we face the same growing concern that the rest of our province faces. Our population is aging! This is no surprise. In 2009, the Aging Well Committee (of which I am the co-chair) conducted a county-wide survey to determine how we can make our community a better place to age and to assess how we can "work together" to become more age-friendly.

Accessibility emerged as a top priority.

The Aging Well Committee is comprised of senior volunteers from the county who want to

make a difference. We want to create a community where people can enjoy good health, age well, live in a secure environment and fully participate in society. The volunteers have passion and have already completed a number of smaller projects to improve access (arm chairs in community centres, benches installed to rest when out walking, etc.). The ramp project is an Accessibility-focused initiative. This project has been successful in a number of other communities and cities in Ontario. It's been proven to work, that's why we chose it!

In order to help alleviate access concerns for businesses (note: not completely solve the problem), temporary removable ramps are a creative and cost saving approach to accessibility in our downtown area where sidewalk space is limited and permanent ramps are prohibited. The ramps would be the sole responsibility of the business owner. This community collaborative project means working with businesses that qualify (one step entrance); HHSS; HCDC; and the many volunteers who are willing to put in their time to make a difference.

see CHOOSE page 7

points of view

Blubbering on

IT MIGHT COME as a surprise for some readers, but I am Haliburton County's leading authority on whale-related news – at least until someone more assertive makes that claim.

There are two reasons for this. First, as a journalist, I have always been fascinated by the big stories. Second, these days, to make your mark in an overly crowded media landscape, you have to find a niche. And since I'm not into competing, developing talent or working hard, I chose whales.

With that in mind, I'd like to submit the first of a six-part series on troubling whale behaviour in a segment that examines tail slapping.

In the last year, there have been two well-publicized cases of whales using their huge tails to clobber people. The first saw an Australian surfer slapped into unconsciousness by a whale. The second incident hit a little closer to home (no pun intended) when a whale used its huge tail to slap a woman from

Hamilton who was whale watching off the Mexican coast. The surfer was carried off in a stretcher. She just laughed. I suspect that in itself explains why whales do not dare visit Hamilton Harbour.

In any event, these are only the cases we know about. No one can say how many other incidents have gone unreported.

I do know this much, however: it's going to take a lot of media exposure before some major news network will ask me to comment as a leading expert on whale-related news. And, until that happens, my advancement in the industry is on hold – or perhaps even reverse.

With that in mind, I'd like to raise public awareness of this pressing issue by offering several tips to lessen the odds of being slapped by a whale. If this prevents just one person from taking a blubbery tail fin to the face, I've finally

accomplished something useful.

The first thing I tell anyone who asks is that situational awareness is key.

It's important to realize that any time you are in an ocean setting, loafing among a pod of whales or even in the front row at a Marine Park you exponentially increase the risk of being slapped by a whale.

Know this much.

If you accept that risk, you can still take precautions. For instance, never to utter phrases such as, "Have you seen Willy?"

"That's a lot of blubber," or "Baby got humpback," if a whale is within earshot. It's also not too safe to utter these things to the person next to you.

Likewise, it's not a good idea to whistle the commercial jingle for Marine land and Game Farm in presence of a whale. Nor is it prudent to throw it a beach ball or hold a dead herring in

your teeth.

These things increase the probability of getting slapped.

Mostly, however, the best way to avoid being slapped by a whale is to respect boundaries. If you are out on a small vessel chasing whales in order to get a photo opportunity, you need to recognize that you are getting in the way of that animal's life.

While it might be thrilling for you, the whale probably views you as some idiot parking a boat in the middle of its food supply which from what I understand is primarily shrimp. And no living creature takes kindly to having its meal disrupted.

So I guess what it boils down to is respect. Yes, when it comes to whales, or any other huge animal, the best advice is to keep a little distance. No one likes a complete stranger getting all up in their krill.

sgalea6953@aol.com



Steve Galea
Beyond 35

Grabbing our property taxes

NOT SO VERY LONG AGO, in places just like this, we peasants were allowed to decide how to spend the taxes we reaped from the land on which we lived.

Other taxmen might lay their hands on anything that moved, but we had an exclusive right, or thought we did, to tax that which did not move, our real estate.

And with that right came the limited right, through our councils and our school boards, to make our own decisions on how best to spend that property tax.

Not so much anymore. The real lesson in the great uproar over the Ontario Provincial Police's doubling of the price for our protection is that we are losing the ability to decide for ourselves to a senior government that thinks it knows best.

The doubling estimate is for the Township of Minden Hills. Every township in the county faces a painful increase from the OPP in 2015, but The Brown Dog Jiggs and I have had enough difficulty understanding the case of our home township, so we will stick to that.

First of all, you should understand that all of the talk of doubling doesn't mean your property tax bill will double. If your Minden Hills tax bill last year was, say, \$2,500, the OPP's demand would add only a little more than \$100 in 2015.

The township also acts as tax collector for the schools and the county. The township's share of the bill was less than

a third of the total in 2013. About a fifth of that township share went straight to the OPP.

Though a \$100 hike might be merely irritating for you, it would be devastating for the township. It would take away about 25 per cent of the money the township had to spend on dumps and roads and fire engines in 2013. Somehow it would have to find more than a million dollars.

Taxes would be raised or services cut. Either way, politicians would be blamed for something that isn't their fault. They squawk loudly at injustice so everybody understands that they didn't do it.

Local records from as little as a generation ago are hard to come by, so the history that follows is based on my own 1995 tax bill. In those days before amalgamation, my township was Anson, Hindon and Minden.

In 1995, the county school board as well as county council made their own independent spending decisions. In effect, they invoiced the township, which added its own spending to the final tax bill.

In theory, nothing has changed. Except that now the education invoice comes from the province instead of an elected local body and a good chunk of the township's spending goes to the province through the OPP.



Neil Campbell
Back of Beyond

In 2013, about half of your tax bill was imposed from above for education and policing. In 2015, Queen's Park's share will rise to 56 per cent.

In case you want to blame that on the Wynn Liberals, it was the Common Sense Revolution of Conservative Mike Harris that devised the current arrangement.

Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey, who has been a political fixture since the day after the beginning of time, remembers that education costs were galloping out of control, rising eight per cent a year.

The Revolution's solution was to rein in education spending by taking charge of it, imposing a province-wide invoice. In return for that 1997 favour, rural municipalities were to pay the OPP for its services.

Education's share of property taxes dropped from 60 per cent of my 1995 tax bill to 44 per cent in 2013.

The Revolution also transformed most of the provincial highways that ran through Haliburton into county roads. The Monck, Loop, Buckhorn, Haliburton and Kinmount roads all used to be highways. It took a determined fight by MPP Chris Hodgson to save Highway 118.

The Gelert Road lost its highway status a generation earlier. Before that, there were no county roads. Now those

former highways put about \$187 on our hypothetical \$2,500 tax bill in Minden Hills. There is nothing wrong with that.

You might know that the existing OPP billing formula for Minden is \$187 per household. That's a pure, but eerie, coincidence; one has nothing to do with the other.

If anybody actually understands the OPP's once and future billing formulas, they've kept it to themselves. Evidently, we have been paying less than our fair share; others have been paying too much. The OPP means to restore justice.

The resulting uproar has been worthy of an opera, full of shouting and confusion, punctuated by long arias of remorse and indignation.

Queen's Park lets the OPP mail the bill, and local politicians shoot the messenger. Nobody thinks of phasing in the change instead of hurling it at us all in one lump sum.

All of this is detail. The only question that should matter is this: Why must rural Ontario pay for what used to be, and should be, a provincial responsibility, from property taxes that used to belong to us? Why must a price be imposed on us for an institution over which we have no authority?

The OPP now. What next – the MNR? Oops! Premier, cover your ears.

neilcampbell@xplornet.ca

Choose to look at things in a different, positive light

from page 6

in our community. Dysart et al has already signed on as a pilot project site. We've been waiting to hear from Minden Hills.

The purpose is to make a difference and to

create positive change. How is it still possible that collaboration, partnership, meeting clear needs and above all, making an impact on those who cannot access local businesses, is not viewed as a progressive approach to making our community a better place to live?

However, focusing on the negative, of "imposing implications" comes through loud and clear. This is a pilot project. A pilot project looks at what works and what doesn't work and making changes for improvement. It's about working together!

How about choosing to look at things in a different light, rather than focusing on the negative – give us a chance, Minden Hills!

Angela Andrews
Co-Chair Aging Well Committee



Smoke detectors woke family

from page 1

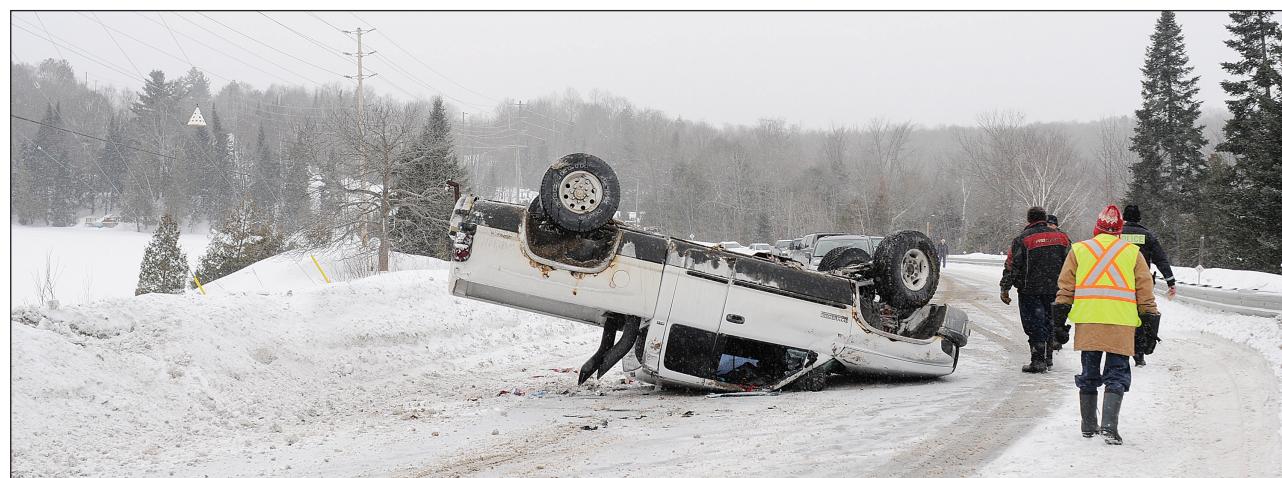
Thomas said smoke detectors awoke the family, who have a small child, and that the residents escaped unharmed.

Sixteen Algonquin Highlands fire fighters received backup from six Dysart et al fire department members, who brought over two tankers, through the township's mutual aid agreement.

At about 10 a.m., firefighters were packing up hoses as the final bits of smoke drifted from the home's remains.

Fire claimed a historic farmhouse on St. Peter's Road in Algonquin Highlands on the morning of March 4. Firefighters got the call to the blaze, which started as a chimney fire, around 4 a.m.

Chad Ingram Staff



Minor injuries in rollover

A pickup truck heading westbound rolled over just past the Allsaw bridge, between Blairhampton Road and Osprey Road on County Road 21 on Tuesday afternoon, March 4. It caused a temporary road closure, backing traffic up on the east and westbound lanes. The Ontario Provincial Police said road conditions were a factor and charges are unlikely. The 18-year-old female driver, who was the lone occupant, was left with minor injuries. The Haliburton Fire Department and Haliburton County Emergency Medical Services also responded to the call close to 2 p.m. Darren Lum Staff

Police searching for man in his 60s

from page 1

Road.

After swearing at the driver about road conditions, the man punched him, causing minor injuries, before fleeing in a pickup truck.

Police describe the suspect as a grey-haired man in his mid or late 60s driving a black Dodge Dakota.

The township employee did not wish to speak to the paper about the incident.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the OPP at 705-286-1431.

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Olindo DalBello of Stoney Creek enjoys the sunshine on Soyers Lake while ice fishing.



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HHHS CEO Varouj Eskedjian and HHHF executive director Dale Walker talk to the HHHS board about the new palliative care suite slated to be built at the Haliburton hospital.

Chad Ingram Staff

HHHS hopes to break ground in summer

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Haliburton Highlands Health Services hopes to start construction on a second palliative care suite at the Haliburton hospital by the end of August.

"The ministry staff is going to try to accelerate the process of our planning," CEO Varouj Eskedjian told members of the board at a Feb. 27 meeting.

On Feb. 13, HHHS received formal permission from the health ministry to proceed with capital planning on the project.

Eskedjian hopes this process will be complete by spring and that a tender for the project will go out by the end of June.

In the meantime, HHHS will attempt to pre-qualify a

number of contractors.

"The idea is to try to shorten the timeline," Eskedjian said, adding he hoped to have shovels in the ground by late August and the shell of the addition closed by winter so that interior work can be completed.

The expansion will include two bedroom suites, a family room and vestibule area.

"We have started to do some preliminary work for fund-raising," Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation executive director Dale Walker told the board.

The foundation has already raised \$250,000 for the project, with the campaign goal at \$900,000.

The project's final cost will be solidified once working drawings are completed.

The fundraising campaign will be called Making Moments Matter.

"It's a whole journey of end-of-life care," Walker said. "It's

also about celebrating the family and the family being able to celebrate that life."

The campaign is set to kick off officially in May, with Walker hoping the foundation will have raised some \$400,000 by then.

She's aiming for the campaign to finish early next year, around the same time construction of the addition should be wrapping up.

"It's a pretty tight timeframe, but we're confident we can do it," Walker said.

Proceeds from the recent Curl for Care bonspiel and this year's Cash for Care lottery will be used for the project.

For Cash for Care tickets, call 705-457-1580 or 705-286-1580 or visit www.hhhs.on.ca/foundation/cash-for-care-lottery.

HHHS earns silver environmental rating from OHA

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Feb. 27 Haliburton Haliburton Health Services board meeting:

HHHS has earned a silver ranking on the Ontario Hospital Association's green hospital score card.

Based on a number of criteria, for 2013, HHHS was one of 24 hospitals in the province to receive a silver ranking.

"Nobody has reached a gold standard," HHHS CEO Varouj Eskedjian told board members.

Forty-seven hospitals received a bronze rating. There are more than 200 hospitals in Ontario.

Flu outbreak

In early February, there was an influenza outbreak at Extendicare, with three residents exhibiting symptoms. That was compounded by an outbreak of coronavirus at the facility Feb. 14. As a result, staff, patients and visitors at Extendicare have not been permitted to pass back and forth to HHHS facilities. Any staff working at Extendicare must wait 72 hours before returning to work at HHHS and signage has been posted.

Community Care moving

The house adjacent to the Haliburton hospital recently purchased by HHHS is being renovated to accommo-

date the administration for Community Care Haliburton County.

Community Care and HHHS are being merged under the ongoing integration process within the Central East Local Health Integration Network.

Renovations are expected to be completed by the end of March, with a move-in some in April or May, meaning Community Care will save money it spends on a lease at its current space.

"We can use that money for something else," Eskedjian said.

CCHC and HHHS are to be fully integrated by late June. As part of the integration, hospice care that has been offered by SIRCH and adult day programs from the Victorian Order of Nurses are also coming under the umbrella of HHHS.

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Darren Lum Staff

Minden teen and karate competitor Owen MacKeigan, who holds a kata movement, is preparing for his first international competition, the Scottish International Open Karate Championships from April 26 to 27 at the Meadowbank Sports Centre in Edinburgh. MacKeigan, who is a Haliburton Highlands Secondary School student, dreams of making the national team and competing internationally.

Minden teen ready to challenge the world

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

With a name like Owen MacKeigan it's fitting Scotland would be part of a successful journey for his life's passion.

MacKeigan, who is of Scottish descent, embraces the philosophy of karate for how it informs his life and is ready to not just return to his homeland, but to compete in the biggest martial arts event of his life, the Scottish International Open Karate Championships.

He wants to win, but will be satisfied to just perform his best, he said.

On a first meeting he is far more mature and confident than any 15-year-old, explaining how he recently worked out with the national karate team. MacKeigan will take a giant step towards making that team this June when goes to Scotland for seven days (from April 21 to 27) and competes as a 16-year-old (with a birthday in March) in the kata and the kumite within the first degree blackbelt 16 to 17 age, 70 kilograms category from April 26 to 27 at the Meadowbank Sports Centre in Edinburgh.

Karate Canada said the kata event uses a panel of judges that mark competitors on a series of

offensive and defensive karate techniques against imaginary opponents. The techniques are marked according to how each is performed related to timing, distance, power, balance and speed.

Consistent with the philosophy of karate, the judges also look for the expression of the idea that is rooted behind each technique.

The kumite is a battle between two competitors.

Each competitor is looking to defeat their opponent using a free combination of karate techniques. Points are awarded for the proper execution of technique, regarding form and precision. Competitors can earn up to three points (sanbon), followed by two (nihon) and one (ippon).

In Scotland the kumite bout will be won with 10 points instead of three as it is in Ontario.

Although the teen didn't have to earn a berth to compete, MacKeigan has worked hard to earn his junior black belt to be capable of showing well. He expects to have his black belt in March before leaving for Scotland and is confident he will do well with a history of local victories. He knows the competition will be the best of the world and wouldn't go to embarrass himself.

A member of the Kawartha

Lakes Wado-Kai Karate club based in Lindsay since he started in the Japanese martial art with sensei Kris Reynolds five years ago, the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School student also teaches four young students at the Minden Wado-Kai club out of, Archie Stouffer Elementary School. MacKeigan started teaching two years ago, taking over from his grandfather who started the Minden club.

Karate goes deeper than an athletic passion for MacKeigan and, as far as he is concerned, nothing compares.

"It's a unique sport all on its own. Other people play soccer. That's a game. Karate isn't a game. It's more serious than that," he said. "The people in it are amazing. It's like a big family."

At a St. Catharines tournament, everyone knows each other and despite the competition there is still an atmosphere of unity.

"I look at life more seriously instead of like a joke," he said, adding words like honour and integrity are part of his life because of karate.

"I thought about it the other day. I never get angry. I just let [things] go," he said. "Because I don't have anything to prove to anybody."

“

I thought about it the other day. I never get angry. I just let [things] go. Because I don't have anything to prove to anybody.

— Owen MacKeigan

The Scottish competition is only open to Wado-Kai Karate members.

MacKeigan wants to join his sensei, Reynolds, who is on the national karate team.

The Minden teen, whose only travel out of the province include a trip to Nova Scotia and to Florida this past Christmas, wants to make the national team to see the world.

Right now he is working on gaining sponsorships to cover his expenses for Scotland, but as a member of the national team these kinds of expenses would be covered.

He appreciates any sponsorship help and those interested can call 705-286-4259.

The Karate Canada website said karate started in the 17th century as a response to Japanese rulers, who forbade the use of weapons to the people of the Okinawa Island.

They started the self-defense practice of karate, which is translated as "empty hands."

Recently he got the opportunity to train with the national team for a weekend.

Being surrounded by the national team members gave him a good sense about his own skills. He feels confident about his chances in Scotland.

Most people at his school know very little about his high level of achievement in karate.

MacKeigan said no one has really asked and he never felt comfortable boasting about it.

That may change though if he becomes a world champion in either kata or kumite.

"When I'm the world champion then maybe I'll brag," he said.

Even if he doesn't win he promises to return with a kilt.

MH sponsors annual flower show

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

The annual flower show hosted by the Minden and District Horticultural Society will officially become a Minden Hills-sponsored event.

Councillors for the township made that decision at a Feb. 27 meeting, where they were visited by society president Mary Jane Irwin and Margaret Giles, secretary and flower show chairwoman.

The show has traditionally been held at the community centre, with the township waiving fees.

In January, the club submitted its customary letter requesting such, but this year was asked by interim community services director Darren Levstek to make a formal presentation to council.

Minden Hills is in the process of trying to categorize local events into one of three categories under its new events framework.

Category A includes township-hosted events, such as Canada Day; category B includes township-sponsored events, such as the Rotary bluegrass festival; and category C includes events that take place on public property, but are not affiliated with the township.

"We do have mandates and objectives we try to carry out," Irwin told councillors. These include but are not limited to holding meetings on the theory and practice of horticulture, encouraging the planting of trees and flowers on private and public property, protecting the environment and promoting community gardening and outdoor beautification.

The society is responsible for the flowerers and planters throughout Minden's downtown.

It has 101 members.

"The total working hours that our members put in last year was 2,035," Irwin said. "For many years the horticultural society and the township have worked together to make the downtown beautiful and inviting."

This year marks the 35th annual flower show, with last year's event drawing 39 exhibitors displaying 300 entries.

This year's show will run July 25 and 26 and the society requested use of the community centre and council was supportive of township sponsorship of the show.

"You've been asked to approach council so we can formally say you've approached council," said Reeve Barb Reid. "It's not an annual thing where you have to come back."

Council voted to put the flower show on the list of category B events.

"I would just like to say, after 35 years, you're doing a great job," said Deputy reeve Cheryl Murdoch. "We as a council we should be saying that to you."

The woes of daylight savings time

Patti Fleury
Around the Town

705-488-2938
brucefleury1@hotmail.com

Here at the old farmhouse there are two definite signs of Spring. One is welcome the other not. Our Toronto Blue Jays have shown up on the TSN channel from Dunedin, Florida well on their way to a great season while on the negative side this coming Sunday morning it's spring ahead with a return to Daylight Savings Time. This past Sunday afternoon at the annual general meeting of the Kinmount & Area Artisans Guild our guest speaker member Guy Scott took the group back in time to early Kinmount sharing information as to the creative spirit present in the pioneer community. What we might consider today to be more of a recreational pursuit was back then a necessary part of the household and farmstead daily life. The 1911 census required that everyone in the household 18 years and older had to list his or her "profession." These fell under four general categories - farming, business, lumber and professional services which included barn builders. Married women were registered under their husband's name

and at the Kinmount Fair all crafts such as quilts were homemade and for family use rather than sale. Cash was scarce and an active barter system in place with eggs, potatoes and butter favoured items for exchange. The next census indicated a major decline in population numbers with a large exodus of Kinmount area families moving out west particularly to Saskatchewan. While the main reason given for this relocation is usually based on available fertile farmland and related opportunities I have my own theory. Those wise pioneers somehow knew that far ahead that the Province of Saskatchewan would leave well enough alone and not ever change from Standard to Daylight Savings Time.

March is a busy month at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 441 Kinmount. This Sunday, March 9 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. come out for the Grand Ole Opry video/dance. Sing along or dance to classic country music guests of Grand Ole Opry. There is no admission charge and refreshments will be available. For all those Irish folk and the rest of us who wish we were on Saturday, March 15 from 4 to 7 p.m. there will be an afternoon of Irish music featuring Phil McMahon and the Paddy's Lament trio. Admission is by donation and a hot/cold buffet with traditional Irish cuisine will be served at a cost of \$5.

The monthly Big Bucks Bid Euchre will be on Wednesday, March 19 at 11 a.m. with a delicious lunch included in the \$10 admission fee. There are two events scheduled for Saturday, March 22 with a 9 a.m. start for the Open Dart Tournament in the upstairs hall and later in the clubroom at 8 p.m. it's open mike with Dan Nickel. Bring your friends along to play Crokinole in the upstairs hall on Sunday, March 23 at 1 p.m. with no admission charge then the following Sunday, March 30th from 1 to 4 p.m. enjoy open mike country jamboree featuring Scott Gartshore and Dirt Road with a \$7 admission charge.

With March Break just ahead be sure to check with your local Library branch and other community resources regarding special activities. Here in Kinmount the Artisans Guild will host a Craft Morning for children generally aged 5 to 12 years. The program will be in the Kinmount Community Centre from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and there is no charge but slippers should be worn. Pre-registration is appreciated for planning purposes and the contact number is here at 705-488-2938.

This week granddaughter Emma is off to San Jose, California for the Cinequest Film Festival which includes the Canadian film "It Was You Charlie" in which she has a featured role. We are very proud of her.

Until next week ...

County card scores

by Patti Fleury ~ 488-2938 ~ brucefleury1@hotmail.com



February 24 euchre at Club 35: Garth Windsor reports that lone hand honours went to Marg Oetelaar with Linda Voycey and Al McMullen posting the high scores. The evening's lows went to Ann Manning and Merv Elstone with Al McMullen claiming the balloons.

February 25 contract bridge at Club 35: The top trio members were Kathie Porter 5,350, Bruce Armstrong 4,580 and our reporter Muriel McIntosh 4,500. Mary Johnson won the draw, Gail Medcalf was awarded the shiny Penny and Kathie Porter partnered with Jackie Metcalf for a Small Slam.

February 25 contract bridge at Minden United Church: From Nancy Ballantyne the news that Bob Penfold led at 4,390 then Rhonda Elstone 4,130 and Marilyn Burrows 3,980. with Bob and Rhonda teaming up for a Small Slam.

February 25 euchre at Lochlin Community Centre: For the ladies Irene McDowell was high and Betty Hicks low with Ed McDowell high man and Gene Newell low. Bruce Shephard won for most lone hands and Helen Burk for the draw. Thanks to Nancy McPherson for this update.

February 25 Minden Seniors bid euchre at Minden Legion: Betty Wagar reports that the leading ladies were Theresa Deak 330, Jean Scadden 311, Pat Norman 295 and Eileen Shapiera 278. First for the gents at 286 was Ida Young followed by Marcel Roussel 271, Phyllis Windsor 266 and Bob Pollard 265. John Deak won the major draw while Marcy Morgan, Clare Obdam and Tom Grix claimed the smaller prizes. Four moonshots landed on Bill McKnight, Georgina Parkes, Albert Foster and Jean Scadden.

February 25 Mixed Shuffleboard at Stanhope Firehall: In first place were Diane Platt and Ann Manning 419 then Peggy Beattie and Dorene Elstone 378. Third spot went to Connie Sawyer partnered with George Hamilton 318 while Jean Randell and John Kerr posted the afternoon's low of 144. Thanks to Pearl Cowen for this news.

February 26 duplicate bridge at Parklane, Haliburton: Playing Howell Muriel McIntosh and Diana Spicer led at 72 percent followed by Gord Cochrane and Peter O'Connor 60 percent, Jan and Dave Heaven 55 percent and Lois Emmerson partnered with Liv Andersen 53 percent.

February 26 bid euchre at Stanhope: First for the whites at 249 was Pat Scadden with

Jason Peacock 225 next and Jean Dutka 204 third while Pat Marshall led the pinks at 269 then Penny Elliott 205 and Anne Manning 193. Linda Lambert also reports that Pat Marshall, Jason Peacock, Anne Manning and Pearl Cowen took the moonshots.

February 27 bid euchre at Minden Community Centre: Leading ladies were Theresa Deak 260, Jean Scadden 258, Maria Tschida 242 and Belle Walker 236. Tied for top marks for the gents at 266 were Howard Smith and Albert Foster then Jean Scadden 258 and Kevin Maloney 238. Sharron Atkinson also reports that Jean Scadden and Tom Grix had single moonshots while Albert Foster and Marcel Roussel each took two. Best wishes are sent out to Bev Johnson from her many friends at cards.

February 28 euchre at Staanworth Court, Minden: Shirley Howe reports that Pat Bailey won for high hands, Nick Boekestyn for lone hands, Jean Randell for low hands and Kevin Maloney for the special prize.

February 28 duplicate bridge at Echo Hills, Haliburton: Playing Howell top marks went to Peter O'Connor and Rob Eaton at 72 percent then Kathie Porter and Helen Baker 63 percent.

February 28 bid euchre at Club 35: Pink honours went to Marg Oetelaar 256, Pat Marshall 234 and our reporter Jean Dutka 225. Garth Windsor topped the whites at 300 followed by Jason Peacock 291 and Clara Mischio 143. Al McMullen held the hidden score while Jason Peacock and Pat Marshall took the moonshots.

March 1 bid euchre at Staanworth Terrace, Minden: Leading the gents at 248 was Kevin Maloney followed by Marcel Roussel 244, Tom Grix 215 and Jesse Barlow 208. Albert Foster further reports that at 241 Jean Randell led the ladies then Karin Harrison 229, Pearl Cowen 218 and tied for fourth spot at 178 Pat Roussel and Donna McArthur. Pearl Cowen took home the special prize with moonshots going to Marcel Roussel, Kevin Maloney

and Karin Harrison [2].

March 3 euchre at St. Paul's Friendship Club, Minden: The lone hand holders were Yvonne Arbuthnot and Don Blahey with Margaret Fletcher and Deanna Cooper posting the high scores. The afternoon's lows went to Pam Pappas and our reporter Tim Sharpe while Annah Buxcey held the hidden score and Betty Sharpe won the special prize and chatted with the skunk.

March 3 Kinmount Seniors bid euchre at Kinmount Legion: The high scoring trio members were Marcel Roussel 330, Vic Ballik 288 and Jim Corbett 255. Marcel also was the draw winner and took a moonshot along with Dorothy McElwain, Tom Grix, Frank Franzen, Marcy Morgan and our reporter Rose Isaacson.

March 3 euchre at Staanworth Terrace, Minden: Our reporter Sherin Brown won for high hands, Joan Riel for lone hands and Lilian Mann for both low hands and the special prize.

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Hawks crowned kings of Kawartha

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

It's a year of firsts for the Red Hawks boys' hockey team following their top ranking in the league.

Maybe it was just pre-destined or plain hard work, but the Red Hawks managed to beat everyone, AA or AAA for the Kawartha High School Hockey League title for the first time.

Coach Ron Yake smiled about the team's performance on the day, particularly about what the 1-0 win over the larger St. Peter's Catholic Secondary School Saints team meant.

"It's the first time in our high school history that we have beat everybody in our league, AA or AAA. We've been AA champs for Kawartha, but we've never beat a team like St. Peter's so this was humongous for us and it was a great victory," he said.

There was a solid showing of support at the A.J. LaRue Arena on Thursday, Feb. 27 in Haliburton when the Hawks hoisted the Kawartha trophy in the air.

Starting out, the Hawks looked flat and on their heels at times and so did the Falcons through parts of the rest of the game.

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Above, Red Hawks defenceman Tanner Hamilton finishes a shot in the final.

Left, Tyler Barry finishes a check in the final and Nate Feir celebrates with Jake Harrison after an insurance goal against the Falcons in the semi-finals, which proved to be the game-winner.

Below, Nate Feir celebrates with Jake Harrison after an insurance goal against the Falcons in the semi-finals, which proved to be the game-winner.

Photos by Darren Lum



They weathered the initial wave of attacks through solid goaltending from Brayden Frost, who earned the shutout, and solid work by everyone in front of him, Yake said.

Yake acknowledged fatigue was a factor, but thought the opposition was suffering as well.

"They were tired too. They had the big bus ride so I think both teams were a little tired, but, hey, they're a good team," he said, referring to their trip from Peterborough. "I said to the guys before the game, Team Canada played outstanding. I don't expect anyone today is going to play that well, but I think we came darn close."

Earlier in the day, both teams played their semi-finals and it showed in the final.

During the Hawks' morning game, the home side survived a nail-biter against the Fenelon Falls Secondary School Falcons.

It didn't start out that way, as the Hawks dominated the visitors for close to two periods, leading 3-0 on the strength of winger, Jake Bursey's hat trick.

The Falcons, as has been their trademark against the Hawks, made a game of it in the second half, scoring a pair of quick goals to narrow the gap to 3-2.

An insurance goal from Hawks forward Jake Harrison 10

seconds later proved invaluable as the Falcons countered with a third goal, narrowing the two-goal gap to one.

Harrison, who put in yeoman's work on the penalty kill with Curtis Ballantyne, finished with the game-winner.

Hawks winger, Tyler Barry added the last goal for the 5-3 win with a bullet that handcuffed Pete's goalie, Adam Harris.

Barry also supplied the heroics for the Kawartha final, scoring the game-winner on a nice rush by linemate Bursey, who took his check behind the net leaving Barry wide open.

A collective sigh might not have been heard, but the release of tension was obvious.

The Hawks advance to the Central Ontario Secondary School Athletics championships as the No. 1 AA Kawartha seed while Saints advances as the No. 1 AAA seed on Tuesday at the Wally Diver Arena in Belleville. The Falcons advance to COSSA as the No. 2 seed.

The COSSA winner will advance to play at the all-provincials.

Note: AA school has a population less than 900 students and AAA is over 900.



Darren Lum Staff

Central Ontario Secondary School Athletics silver medalist Matt Pheaton is excited about his first all-provincial berth in wrestling from March 5 to 6 in Brampton. Pheaton is proud to represent the Red Hawks and Haliburton at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations championships.

OFSAA bound Hawk proud to represent Highlands

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

Red Hawks wrestler Matt Pheaton is brimming with confidence going into the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations championships from March 5 to 6 in Brampton.

Pheaton is realistic about his chances and will carry the strength of the Red Hawks with him as the lone representative.

"I just want to do the best I can. It doesn't matter if I make podium, but I'd like to. I want to get out of there knowing I did the best I could," he said.

After a shortened sports year, the student athlete who stands less than five-foot-four was a little nervous to start his year.

"The first year back I didn't know what to expect," he said. "I blanked when I walked out, but as soon as the whistle blew ... everything came back," he said.

He went on to win his 51-kilogram weight class and three other competitions.

Pheaton said, aside from one bronze, he won a silver or a gold in all of his events.

The Grade 10 wrestler said daily practice since mid-November, training with wrestlers up a weight class and coaches helped in his first berth to the all-provincials.

"They're definitely pushy. It helps. I don't want a soft

coach," he said.

His coach, Paul Klose, is proud of Pheaton, who he said will be younger than most at the all-provincials, as the majority will be in Grade 11 or higher.

"Matt will be there as a young wrestler. To be in this tournament in Grade 10 can only be good," he said.

The team's other coach is Dan Fockler.

Klose, who said there would be 29 wrestlers in Pheaton's weigh class, likes how he has matured from his first year.

"He's putting things together. He's transitioning from move to move, which is what you want at this tournament so it's not just getting out there and being a one-move person," he said.

The future is bright for this wrestler.

"He's quick. His technique's pretty decent and in the next few years his technique will just keep improving. I'm excited," he said.

The goal, he adds, is for Pheaton to get to the second day of matches.

This two-day event is a double-elimination format.

Competitors who lose the first two matches go home or keep winning and remain in the hunt for the top-six podium.

Lose one and the competitor will be relegated to the consolation round.

Final matches are scheduled for Thursday March 6 at 3 p.m.

The OFSAA website (www.ofsaa.on.ca/wrestling) is advertising finals matches will be broadcasted live.

Bronze for snowboarding OFSAA hawks

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

The Red Hawks snowboarding team was led by a bronze performance by the Red Hawks girls' snowboarding team at the Ontario Federation of School Athletics Associations on Feb. 27 at the Mansfield Ski Club.

Hawks coach Caley Sisson said, "all the girls raced well, getting a time was key to a combined time and final result."

Red Hawks Robin Hogarth led the snowboarding team

with a seventh place and combined two-run time of 75.86, followed by Hunter McTeague in 30th place and Beth Foster in 56th place, who all figured in the top-three for team points.

Their efforts helped the team finish for a tie for second.

The Hawks were left with third after the tiebreaker was decided by total time. The Hawks total top-three time was 248.16 compared to the second place team of 244.9.

Foster was followed by teammates Christina Stephen, McKenzie Hill and Christine Bishop. There were 111 competitors in the girls' field.

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30th Rockbusterspiel a huge success

Don Pflug
Special to the *Times*

Friday evening saw 96 curlers from Elmira, Fenelon Falls, Haliburton, King City, Lindsay, Oshawa, Port Perry, Waterloo, Sudbury, Tam Heather, Toronto, Whitby and of course Minden, converge on the Minden Curling Club to compete in the 30th annual Rockbuster Men's Open Bonspiel. There was an electricity of excitement in the air as the 24 teams renewed acquaintances while waiting for the start of a weekend of curling, feasting, fun and prizes.

The camaraderie among the players, the laughter, the raffles, the "hearty man" breakfasts and the Saturday evening prime rib feast as well as some great curling competition are the reasons why this event is so well attended.

All teams start equally and then according to wins and losses, teams are slotted into A, B, C and D events. All teams are guaranteed three games, however, a loss in the third game or any game thereafter results in elimination.

The winning team of the A event and the overall winners of the 30th annual Rockbuster Curling Bonspiel hail from Oshawa. Skipped by Steve Park, with team members Jim Moore, Dave Black and Bill Vermulst, they are proud to win

Notices



REQUEST FOR TENDER Haliburton-Stanhope Airport Civil and Electrical Works

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is accepting Tenders for the completion of civil and electrical works at the Haliburton-Stanhope Municipal Airport.

SCOPE OF WORK: The scope of work includes the construction of a 500 m access road, 2 parking lots, 400 m of taxiways, 12,000 sq.m. aircraft apron, Stormwater Management Pond, associated electrical works, line painting and demolition of an existing hangar. The successful tenderer will be required to enter into a contract with the successful contractor for the aircraft hangar construction.

START/END DATE: Anticipated to be May 1, 2014 with the completion of the work by October 31, 2014.

Tender documents will be available after **2 p.m.** local time on **Monday, March 3, 2014** at the Township Office located at:

1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON
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There will be a \$200 non-refundable deposit required to receive the Tender documents.

Qualified companies are encouraged to submit a sealed tender plainly marked **"CIVIL AND ELECTRICAL WORKS - TENDER 006-14"** to the above address by:

2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 21, 2014

For further information, please call 705-489-2379. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Angie Bird, A.M.C.T., CMM1
Chief Administrative Officer
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON
K0M 1J1
P: 705-489-2379 Ext. 222

Michael Osborne, C.E.T., LEL
Senior Project Manager
R.J. Burnside & Assoc. Limited
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P: 705-797-2047 Ext. 755



Event winners from the Minden Curling Club from left to right: Lead, Tony Taylor, Second, Len Goreski, Skip, Bruce Fisher, and Vice, Larry Ferguson

the Harper Power Sports Trophy.

The B event, sponsored by Minden Subaru, was captured by the team from The Minden Curling Club, skipped by Bruce Fisher with team members, Larry Ferguson, Len Goreski and Tony Taylor.

The C event honours, sponsored by Garbutt Disposal, went to the team from Haliburton/York skipped by Kent Milford with team members Randy Slade, Dave Ablett and Dave Ogilvie.

The D event winners sponsored by Dollo's Minden Foodland, also from The Minden Curling Club with skip Richard Hansen and team members Ron Bobbie, Ed Hussul and Ray McArthur.

Iain Kay, convener of the event, expressed his thanks and appreciation to the sponsors of the Rockbuster, namely, Harper Power Sports, Minden Subaru, Garbutt Disposal and Dollo's Minden Foodland, and everyone who donated items for the raffle.

In his closing remarks, Kay expressed his thanks and deep appreciation for the many volunteers whose tireless time and efforts contributed to the success of this event and finally to the curlers themselves for their continued support of this event.

The 31st Rockbuster will be held the weekend of February 20, 21 and 22, 2015. Put it on your calendar, you won't want to miss it.



A event winners and overall winners of the 30th Rockbuster, from Oshawa Golf & Curling Club from left to right: Skip, Steve Park, Vice, Jim Moore, Second, Dave Black and Lead, Bill Vermulst.



C event winners from Haliburton/York from left to right: Skip, Kent Milford, Vice, Randy Slade, Second, Dave Ablett and Lead, Dave Ogilvie



D event winners from the Minden Curling Club from left to right: Lead, Tony Taylor, Second, Ed Hussul, Skip, Richard Hansen and Vice, Ron Bobbie.

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES

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CATERING SERVICES FOR AN EVENT Request for Proposals

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) is inviting proposals for the catering of their Annual Volunteer Appreciation Night which will be held on Monday April 7th 2014 at the Royal Canadian Legion Haliburton. The event hosts approximately 180-200 people. Vendors interested in catering this event are invited to submit a formal written proposal. The proposal should outline:

- The Menu
- Cost per person
- Service Fees
- The number of servers for the event

Proposals can be sent to the attention of Janine Burk by email: jburk@hhhs.on.ca or fax 705-286-6384.

Quotations due by 3:00p.m., Monday, March 17th 2014.

Midget AE Storm's season ends with valiant effort

The Highland Storm Timber Mart midget AE started their 2013/14 season off strong with four consecutive wins. From there the team continued to show dominance and finished in first place in the Muskoka Parry Sound league. Heading into playoffs the team played the Huntsville Otters. The Storm played strong and took the series in five games. In the second round, the midgets played the Ennismore Eagles, where the Storm swept the series in three games. In the semi-finals of the OMHA playdowns, the Storm faced the Collingwood Blackhaws. Despite a valiant effort, the Storm was worn down by the BB centre with a full bench and finished the series at 3-1. The boys went out like gentlemen making all their families and community proud. A great finish for a great season. Thanks to all the coaching staff for their dedication and time. Congratulations and thank you to our sponsor Haliburton Timber Mart.

Submitted by Drew Bishop

Storm girls tie Ennismore in league playoffs

The Highland Storm Minden Car Quest midget B girls wrapped up their provincial playdowns on Saturday in Minden hosting the West Northumberland Wild. The Storm and the Wild battled to a 0-0 tie. With the tie, the Storm are eliminated from the provincial play downs.

The Storm hosted the Ennismore Eagles on Sunday in Haliburton for game two of their league play-offs. The four-point series was tied at one point each after the first game 0-0 tie. Looking to keep pace with the Eagles, the Storm picked up their level of play. The game was tied after two scoreless periods, but with just minutes left in the third, Ennismore capitalized on a turnover in front of the Storm net to take a 1-0 lead. The goal proved to be the game-winner as the Storm could not find an equalizer even with their goalie pulled for the last few minutes. Keep the same focus Storm girls as we try to tie the series at three points with a win on Wednesday night on the road, and then steal the series in overtime or in a shoot out, in a race for the fourth point.

Submitted by Dan Marsden

Bantams win one, lose one against Listowel

The Highland Storm Smolen Dentistry Bantam As travelled to Listowel for their first two games of the OMHA semi-finals. Game 1 was Saturday and the Storm team won 8-4. Goals were from Matt Wilbee and Paydon Miscio with two each, Owen Smitty Smith, Nolan Flood, Chase Burden and Chris Thompson all with singles. Assists went to Owen Smith with three, Matt Wilbee with two, Owen Patterson Smith, Kyle Cooper, Andrew Hall, Jake Bishop and Nolan Flood and Chase Burden all had one assist.

Game 2 on Sunday wasn't as good as the Storm lost 7-1. Matt Wilbee got the only goal assisted by Nolan Flood.

The boys need some hometown support as they play in Minden Friday at 9 p.m. and Saturday at 4:30 p.m. in Haliburton and if need be in Minden on Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Come out and cheer them on!

Submitted by Craig Smith

Tough start to semi-finals for peewee A

The Dollo's Foodland Highland Storm Peewee A team played Penetang at the Minden arena on Saturday and started strong in the first period with goals by Owen Gilbert and Sean Walker. Penetang came back with two goals of their own in the second period but then Gilbert put one in on a scramble in front of the Penetang net midway in the period to regain the lead. Goalie Carson Sisson made some great stops including one on a Penetang breakaway. The Highland Storm could not hold off Penetang in the third period when they took a penalty and Penetang managed to tie it up with a power-play goal. Overtime saw the Storm team put on some good pressure but could not score leaving the game tied 3-3.

Game two was played in Penetang on Sunday starting with a scoreless first period. Penetang opened the scoring early in the second period on a power-play goal and then got another with four minutes remaining in the period. The Highland Storm had some good chances but could not get enough quality shots on net. Penetang scored a third goal at 10:35 in the third period going on to defeat the Highland Storm 3-0. Submitted by Larry Bukta

Above, the midget AE team dyed their hair blonde for the semi-finals.

Atom A looking for a comeback

This was our first game in the semi-finals versus the Listowel Cyclones. After a four-hour trip to Listowel, the boys were geared, stretched and ready to play some hockey. The first period started off very intense and Listowel ended up getting the first goal. It was an action packed game Dylan Keefer our goalie was really being challenged. The game ended in a 3-0 loss for the Storm.

Our second game the boys came out guns a blazing, they



Above, the midget AE team dyed their hair blonde for the semi-finals.

meant business and were not going down without a fight. We were all over them, with awesome shots on net but no scoring in the first period. Listowel managed to get the first goal in the second period. The reffing was certainly not in our favor. The Cyclones scored again early in the third period. The boys were now down 2-0 but still fighting to keep themselves in the game. With 9:41 to go in the third Brenden Newhook assisted by Jake Sisson and Cody Martin managed to sneak one past the cyclone goalie to put the Storm on the board. It was a very intense game and the boys gave it all they had. The final out

come was a 2-1 loss for the Peppermill atom A team! We are so proud of them and we know they can make a comeback on home ice. We play Friday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Minden, come out and support them as it will be a great game I'm sure. If the Storm is successful on Friday night we play again Saturday, March 8, in Haliburton at 3 p.m. and if necessary Sunday, March 9, at 2 p.m. in Minden.

Submitted by Kathy Martin

Cooks wanted

Legion br. 636

Are you looking to improve your skills in handling food safely? Does your group prepare meals for the public? Minden Legion is hosting a food safety course this Friday, March 7 starting at 9 a.m. The one-day course is conducted by a qualified trainer, and those who successfully pass the knowledge test will receive a Food Handler Certificate valid for five years. The certificate is recognized by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and all Ontario Health Units. Space is limited, so reserve your spot by paying the \$40 registration in advance at the Legion clubroom. In order to keep costs as low as possible, the Legion is not charging for the use of our facility. The \$40 fee covers the cost of the instructor, course and exam.

There will be a general membership meeting Wednesday March 5 at 7:30. We are expecting to initiate our newest members and to hear details of the one-by-one recruitment Campaign which has a top prize of a Caribbean cruise for two. The Winner of the early Bird renewals was Paul Sekerak, who gets his membership free for the year. Congratulations, Paul!

We would like to take this opportunity to recognize all of our veterans of the Italian Campaign of World War 11. Minden Legion Member George Corbisier was one of 56 veterans honoured with a certificate at the Peace Through Valour dinner held last fall at Montecassino Hotel in Toronto. Proceeds of the dinner are going towards erecting a monument in Toronto commemorating the contributions of Canadians who fought in Italy, and in particular the nearly 6,000 soldiers who are buried there. If you would like more information about the monument, you can call the committee at 416-789-7011 or email info@peacetroughvalour.ca

The Minden Legion relies on the revenues from our hospitality services to help keep the branch thriving. We would like to recognize Helen Ford who has stepped down after many years of faithful volunteering as a server. Thank you so much for all you do, Helen. The Legion recently hosted a Retirement Party for Pat Kennedy, and Helen was one of the servers along with Helen Dentinger. The cooks were Rick and Jenn Wilson, thank you all. And thank you to those who stepped in to help when one of our volunteer cooks couldn't show up last week due to an injury. With three or four of our regular volunteers away at this time of year, Minden Legion is actively looking for cooks and servers. You do not have to be a member of the Branch in order to help out, and you can volunteer once a month or once a week, whatever suits your schedule. The cooks can even pick what special they want to feature for lunch! Contact the branch at 286-4541 to add your name to the list.

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Tom Ecclestone*
286-2138 x 26



Lee Gauthier**
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Ed Gibbons*
286-2138 x 28



Andrew Hodgson**
286-2138 x 29



Susanne James*
& Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 33



Valerie Kulla*
286-2138



Denise LeBlanc*
286-2138 x 23



Head Lake Haliburton \$89,900

- Totally private estate on Cul de Sac
- Private docking, boat launch & parkland
- Merged triple lot with amazing character
- Flat rock and a towering pine stand

Drew Bishop 457-2128 x 23



Acreage Close to Town \$35,000

- Over 7 acres, minutes to Haliburton
- Some neighbours in area
- Entrance easily created off Municipal road
- Hardwood bush, meadow at back

Dagmar Boettcher 489-9968



Location! Location! Location! \$37,900

- In-town building lot
- Relatively level and well treed
- Electricity and telephone at roadside
- Walk to Haliburton or town docking

Janice Brookes 457-2128 x 22



Very Impressive Waterfront Home

- 250 feet with sand beach on Shadow Lake
- 4 + 3 bedrooms, rec hall, 3 bay garage
- Less than 3 hours from GTA, great access
- Many other outstanding features

Gloria Carnochan & Cindy Muenzel 754-1932



Highway Commercial Building Lot \$109,900

- 120 Ft road frontage on 1/3 Acre
- Excellent visibility Hwy #35
- Suitable for restaurants
- Access to Municipal water/sewers

SOLD

Mark Dennys 457-2128 x 30



Prime Highway 35 Location

- 1,200 sq ft, totally renovated
- C-1 Zoning, Great Exposure
- Close to Township/Court Offices
- Contact Tom Ecclestone for Details

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138 x 26



Irontdale River \$69,000

- Over 7 acres with 588 ft river frontage
- Driveway in place and building site cleared
- 3600 litre septic installed
- Hardwood rolling bush to river

Lee Gauthier 489-9968



Building Lot Close to Town \$29,999

- Great location near Minden
- In an area of nice homes
- 1.18 acres on year round road
- Hydro & phone close by

Ed Gibbons 286-2138 x 28



Large Minden Home \$149,000

- 4 Bedroom, 3 bathrooms
- Large basement with own entrance
- Ideal location – walk to everything!
- Great Opportunity! Don't miss out!

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138 x 29



Great Starter Cottage! \$79,900

- Neat and tidy 2-bedroom cottage
- Deeded access to Wernona Lake across road
- 12' x 8' shed, newer metal roof
- Fully furnished, Year round access

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128 x 33



Davis Lake \$299,900

- 3 bedroom, 4 season cottage
- Bunkie + garage
- Level lot, sand beach, dock
- Big lake view

Valerie Kulla 286-2138



Minden Home \$140,000

- Upgraded 2 Bedroom/1.5 Bath Home
- Open Concept Main Level with Pine Kitchen
- Main Floor Laundry, Full W/O Basement
- Covered Porch and Large Side Deck

Denise LeBlanc 286-2138 x 23



Pride of Ownership! \$335,000

- Immaculate 4 season waterfront home/cottage
- Level lot with child friendly sand beach
- Quiet bay on the Gull River heading to Shadow Lake
- 2 bedrooms and double car garage

David Lee 286-2138 x 27



Recreational Paradise - 37.6 Acres - \$299,900

- 10 mins to Minden, Blairhampton Rd - prestigious area
- Hard/softwood bush; natural spring; part landscaped
- High quality 2+1 BR home; 2 baths; Bsmt w/o; Private;
- Level access; trails; 1.5 km to 12 Mile Lk boat launch

Gary Moffatt 457-2128 x 36



County Road 21 \$165,000

- Mins. to Minden conveniences, solid brick
- 2 bdrm; walk out bsmt.; family room
- Sep. dining room; fireplace; hardwood floor
- Raised bungalow; dbl drive-lots of parking

Erin Nicholls 457-2128 x 34



Location, Location, Location \$269,000

- 3 Bdrm home w/full w/o basement
- Attached garage + workshop,
- Close to lakes, golf & amenities
- Drilled well, septic & propane furnace

Karen Nimigon 457-2128 x 29



Pine Lake \$269,900

- 100' sandy frontage, flat level lot, gar, shed
- 2+ bdrm, sunroom, deck, main fl laundry
- Mins. to shopping, Sir Sam's, full block bsmt
- 3 lake chain, great fishing and swimming

Dawn Poissant 457-2128 x 31



Excellent Opportunity on Halls Lake \$299,900

- 120 feet of fantastic waterfront
- Excellent swimming, fishing & boating
- Original 1940's cabin
- Plus full bunkie with kitchen & bathroom

Margie Prestwich 457-2128 x 37



Great Starter Home \$119,900

- Located between Haliburton & Minden
- Many recent upgrades
- Bunkie, single carport, storage shed
- Public access to the 5 lake chain close by

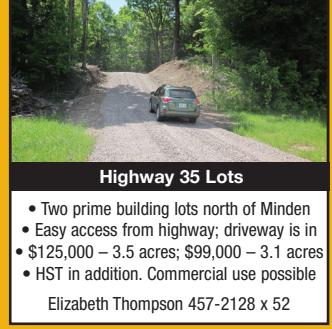
Greg Stamp 457-2128 x 28



Home Sweet Home! \$179,000

- Fully renovated and updated home
- 2 + 1 bedrooms, open concept living area
- Great location, just minutes to Haliburton
- Adjacent lot available at \$34,900

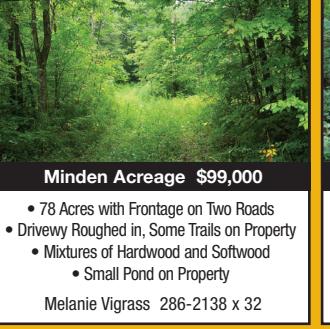
Kim Stamp 457-2128 x 24



Highway 35 Lots

- Two prime building lots north of Minden
- Easy access from highway; driveway is in
- \$125,000 - 3.5 acres; \$99,000 - 3.1 acres
- HST in addition. Commercial use possible

Elizabeth Thompson 457-2128 x 52



Minden Acreage \$99,000

- 78 Acres with Frontage on Two Roads
- Driveway Roughed in, Some Trails on Property
- Mixtures of Hardwood and Softwood
- Small Pond on Property

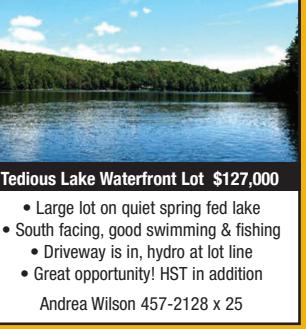
Melanie Vigrass 286-2138 x 32



South Lake Building Lot \$54,900

- Outstanding 9 acre building lot
- Deeded access to South Lake
- Driveway in, hydro at lot line
- Nicely treed for privacy.

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138 x 25



Tedium Lake Waterfront Lot \$127,000

- Large lot on quiet spring fed lake
- South facing, good swimming & fishing
- Driveway is in, hydro at lot line
- Great opportunity! HST in addition

Andrea Wilson 457-2128 x 25



Long Lake - A Must See! \$528,000

- Privacy, Views, 160 Ft frontage, 2 acres
- Mexican Fl. deck, sunroom, off dock
- Tucked away, 2 lake chain
- Year Round, Winterized, Wow Factor!

Janice Brookes 457-2128 x 22



Sir Sam's Ski Chalet \$379,000

- Ski in and out of this stunning Chalet
- 4 BR, 3 Baths, full finished basement
- Top end finishing, amazing views
- Year round getaway for active families

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138 x 29



Ready For Immediate Occupancy \$84,900

- 3 bedrooms with good level lot
- Perfect for young family or retirees
- Comfortable surroundings, close to town
- For more details contact Tom

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138 x 26



- Haliburton (705) 457-2128
- Minden (705) 286-2138

- Carnarvon (705) 489-9968
- Kennisis/Redstone (705) 754-1932

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